

25th March 1960]

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Well; there are land sharks. It cannot be helped. But under the Land Acquisition Act, we have notified it, and, therefore, we will be able to acquire it at a fairly reasonable price.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : May I know whether the Central Government are giving grant or subsidy for this housing scheme, and, if so, how much?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is a loan scheme financed by the Central Government.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, in view of the contemplation of launching a scheme of this type, will the Government instruct the Corporation authorities not to sanction applications for putting up buildings in the contemplated area?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Many of these things are springing up without the permission of the Corporation.

Rosin factory for Ootacamund

* 567 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Rosin Factory at Ootacamund; and

(b) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) There is no proposal at present to start a Rosin Factory at Ootacamund. However, a suggestion has been made to Government by the Virudhunagar Chamber of Commerce, to start a Rosin Factory in Madras State.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : In view of the abundant supply of rosin, why not the Government start a factory?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Why not the hon. Member start the factory, I ask.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, I rise on a point of order. During the first hour, when it is the privilege of members to put questions to Cabinet Ministers and it is the duty of the Ministers to answer them, whether they like them or not, is it in order for any Minister to put a question to a member of the House?

MR. SPEAKER : It may be by way of answer.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The answer may be in the form of a question.

SRI A. VEDARATHNAM : நீலகிரியில் இந்த குங்கிலியம் தயாரிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய மூலப் பொருள்கள் எதேனும் இருக்கிறதா? அப்படியானால் என்ன?

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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I think that out of this they make gum benzoin. I cannot tell exactly the raw materials out of which it is made. We have information that it is possible to locate an industry of this kind in Ootacamund. That is all the information we have.

Slum clearance

* 568 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the City Improvement Trust and the Corporation of Madras have not availed the amount allotted to them for the clearance of slums in the City of Madras;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to appoint a separate committee for the exclusive purpose of clearing slums; and

(c) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) The Corporation and the City Improvement Trust have utilised a fair portion of the amount allotted to them for Slum Clearance/Improvement.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Sir, Is the Hon. Minister aware that the C.I.T. and the Corporation have not utilised the full amount for the clearance of the slums? If so, will the Government entrust to some other body this work of clearing of these slums?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is why I have said that a fair amount has been utilised. How are we sure that if we create a third body, that body will utilise all the amount? These two bodies have been doing fairly good work in this behalf, and we do not think it is necessary to add a number of bodies to do this work.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : Even though the City Improvement Trust and the Corporation have been doing something towards the clearance of these slums, can the Hon. Minister tell us whether any steps have been taken up to prevent new slums from coming up?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, that is the real difficulty. Today, as the law stands, even if people come and put up some huts in the Fort area, we have to issue one month's notice and then give 15 days' time and issue another notice and again issue another notice before they could be removed. I think we must take steps to amend the law to see that earliest action is taken to remove the people from the public land.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : May I know what is the amount utilised so far?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The amount allocated is Rs. 26.55 lakhs to the Corporation and Rs. 25.41 lakhs to the City Improvement Trust. The Corporation has utilised Rs. 7.18 lakhs and the City Improvement Trust has utilised Rs. 12.63 lakhs. A few more sanctions are coming up in March.